Mountain Ash
Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

1954

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
THIRTY-FIRST DECEMBER
ONE THOUSAND NINE
HUNDRED & FIFTY-FOUR

BY

J. LL. WILLIAMS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (LOND.)

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

DAY OF MEETING :
Second TUESDAY in each month at 5.15 p.m.

Chairman ·
Councillor W. M. Rees

Members :

Councillor Miss M. George	Councillor W. I. Jones
Councillor A. H. Maggs	Councillor J. Lewis
Councillor A. S. J. Hillier	Councillor S. Wright
Councillor Mrs. M. Bath	Councillor E. A. Bennett
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Councillor A. Jones	Councillor W. Woosnam
Councillor S. Blake (*dec'd*)	Councillor A. Morgan
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Medical Officer of Health (*part time*) J. Ll. Williams, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.)

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Clerk.....H. J. Thomas

MOUNTAIN ASH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
OXFORD STREET,
MOUNTAIN ASH,
September, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the Mountain Ash Urban District Council.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary conditions of the District, and the work carried out by your Officers of the Public Health Department, together with the vital and other statistics for the year 1954.

I desire to record my thanks to the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. J. WATTERS, and to the staff of the Health Department for their hard work and assistance to me during the year.

Yours sincerely,
J. LL. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District	10,504
Population	30,900
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to the Rate Books	8,418
Rateable Value	£110,846
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£406

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

		Total.	Male.	Female
Live Births :	Legitimate ...	461	244	217
,,	Illegitimate ...	10	4	6
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the resident population		15.24		
Still-Births :	Legitimate ...	23	14	9
,,	Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births registered		46.5		
Deaths		397	218	179
Death-rate per 1,000 estimated average population ...		12.85		

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Heading 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 Total (live and still) Births.
No. 30—Pregnancy, Childbirth, abortion	1	2.0

BIRTHS

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 471. The number of males was 248 and females 223. This gives a Birth-rate of 15.24 per 1,000 inhabitants on a population of 30,900 (Registrar General).

The Birth-rate for the year is .04 higher than the rate for England and Wales, but is .38 lower than the rate for the Administrative County. The Birth-rate is 1.71 lower than last year.

The number of illegitimate children registered was 10. This is equivalent to an illegitimate rate of 20.2 per 1,000 births registered.

INFANT MORTALITY

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age registered in the district during the year was 10, 4 males and 6 females. This gives an infantile death-rate of 21.2 per 1,000 live births registered, and .32 per 1,000 of the inhabitants of the area.

The infantile death-rate of 21.2 per 1,000 births registered is 3.5 lower than for 1953.

The neo-natal mortality rate (the number of deaths during the first month of life) was 10.6 per 1,000 births, and is 50 per cent. of the infantile death-rate.

I append a table showing the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, and the infantile death-rate per 1,000 births for the past ten years. Also, a table comparing the Infant Mortality and Neo-Natal Mortality for the Mountain Ash Urban Area with other areas for 1954 :—

Year	**1945**	**1946**	**1947**	**1948**	**1949**
Number of Deaths	35	32	48	30	25
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	57.0	50.0	73.0	46.0	46.0

Year	**1950**	**1951**	**1952**	**1953**	**1954**
Number of Deaths	25	23	29	13	10
Death-rate per 1,000 births ...	48.6	41.7	50.8	24.7	21.2

DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1954, class

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO

	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Resident						
	Under One year	1 *and under* 2 *years*	2 *and under* 3 *years*	3 *and under* 4 *years*	4 *and under* 5 *years*	5 *and under* 10 *years*	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	
.. ..	—	—					
.. ..	—	—		—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
c diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	
ach ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
, Bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	
t ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
is ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
mphatic			—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—		
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
sease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
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.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
y system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
enum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
rrhoea ..		—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
tion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	
l diseases	5	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	
.. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
war ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	
....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—

DEATHS Registered during the Calendar Year 1954, classified by age and causes.

Name of District—MOUNTAIN ASH.

ANALYSIS OF NETT DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGE.

Cause of Death	Nett Deaths at the subjoined Ages of Residents whether occurring within or without the District												
	Under One year	1 *and under* 2 *years*	2 *and under* 3 *years*	3 *and under* 4 *years*	4 *and under* 5 *years*	5 *and under* 10 *years*	10 *and under* 15 *years*	15 *and under* 20 *years*	20 *and under* 35 *years*	35 *and under* 45 *years*	45 *and under* 65 *years*	65 *and upwards*	*Total*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Tuberculosis—Respiratory	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	3	9
Tuberculosis—Other Forms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm : Stomach ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	17
,, ,, Lung, Bronchus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
,, ,, Breast ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
,, ,, Uterus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	14	13	30
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Diabetes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	5
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	38	47
Coronary disease, angina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	20	25	46
Hypertension with heart disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	5	12
Other Heart disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	19	33	56
Other circulatory disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	15
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	10
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	20	32
Other diseases of respiratory system ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	5	15
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	1	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Congenital malformations	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	7	35	53
Motor vehicle accidents	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	4	—	5
All other accidents	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	6	12
Suicide	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3
Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
GRAND TOTAL	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	14	128	228	397

INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at variou

	Under 1 week	1-2 *weeks*	2-3 *weeks*	3-4 *weeks*	*Total under 4 weeks*
	2	3	4	5	6
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
itis ...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
is ...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	1	—	—	—	1
...	—	—	—	—	—
...	—	—	—	—	
ons ...	1	—	—	—	1
...	3	—	—	—	3
Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—
... ...	—	—	—	—	—
...	5	—	—	—	5

INFANT MORTALITY.—Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year of age.

Cause of Death	*Under 1 week*	1-2 *weeks*	2-3 *weeks*	3-4 *weeks*	*Total under 4 weeks*	1-3 *4 weeks and under 3 months*	3-6 *3 months and under 6 months*	6-9 *6 months and under 9 months*	9-12 *9 months and under 12 months*	*Total Deaths under 1 year*
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other T.B. Diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Influenza	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia all forms ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation, Accidental ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Injury at Birth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis	—	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Malformations ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2
Premature Birth	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
GRAND TOTAL ...	5	—	—	—	5	2	1	—	2	10

Source.	Infant Mortality. Deaths under 1 year.	Rate per 1,000 live births.	Neo-natal Mortality. Deaths under four weeks.	Per rate 1,000 live births.
England & Wales ...	—	25.5	—	17.7
Glamorgan County	370	32.12	248	21.53
Urban Districts ...	275	32.41	187	22.04
Rural Districts ...	95	31.30	61	20.10
Mountain Ash ...	10	21.23	5	10.62
Other Glamorgan Districts :—				
Aberdare	15	26.79	12	21.43
Barry	18	24.19	10	13.44
Bridgend	3	12.24	2	8.16
Caerphilly	26	35.57	17	23.26
Glyncorrwg	10	50.76	5	25 38
Pontypridd	22	35.60	17	27.51
Rhondda	49	31.63	29	18.72

STILL BIRTHS

The number of Still Births registered during the year was 23, and is 4.6 per cent. of the total number of births registered.

DEATHS (All Ages)

The number of deaths in the district during the year was 397. This gives a Death-rate of 12.85 per 1,000 upon an estimated population of 30,900.

The causes of death in the various age groups were as set out in the following tables. It will be noted from the Infant Mortality Table that the greatest single cause of death is again Prematurity.

Notifiable Diseases

The following tables shew the age and ward distribution of the cases of infectious diseases notified during the year under review :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING THE YEAR.

Diseases.	*Total Cases Notified*	*Number of Cases recorded on Form* 118e (*corrected figures*)	*Cases admitted to Hospital*	*Total Deaths*
Scarlet Fever	30	30	2	—
Diphtheria	2	1	2	—
Measles	6	6	—	—
Pneumonia	21	21	8	10
Erysiplas	9	9	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	1	—	1	—
Food Poisoning ...	1	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	1	—
Whooping Cough	1	1	—	—
Tuberculosis :—				
(*a*) Pulmonary Males ...	27	—	11	8
Females	25	—	16	1
Total ...	52	—	27	9
(*b*) Non-Pulmonary Males ...	1	—	1	—
Females	3	—	1	—
Total ...	4	—	2	—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1954. Analysis of the Total Cases in Age Groups.

Disease	*Under 1 year*	1 *to* 2 *years*	2 *to* 3 *years*	3 *to* 4 *years*	4 *to* 5 *years*	5 *to* 10 *years*	10 *to*15 *years*	15 *to*20 *years*	20 *to*35 *years*	35 *to*45 *years*	45 *to*65 *years*	65 *yrs. & over*	*Total*
Scarlet Fever	—	1	2	4	3	10	9	1	—	—	—	—	30
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Measles	1	—	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Pneumonia	2	1	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	1	7	5	21
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	5	1	9
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whooping Cough ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL	3	3	3	5	3	18	10	2	5	2	12	6	72

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1954. Number of Cases notified in each Ward.

Disease	*Duffryn*	*Darran-las*	*Miskin*	*Penrhiw ceiber*	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysy-bwl*	*Total*	*No. of Cases removed to Hospital.*
Scarlet Fever	4	11	8	3	3	1	30	2
Diphtheria	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	2
Measles	1	2	—	3	—	—	6	—
Pneumonia	5	2	4	10	—	—	21	8
Erysipelas	2	1	3	3	—	—	9	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Food Poisoning ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTAL	13	16	18	20	4	1	72	14

ılmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners

	WARDS						
MALES							
	Penrhiw-ceiber	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysybwl*	*Total*	*Duffryn*	*Darranlas*	*Mish*
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
	—	1	1	2	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	4	—	1	1	1	2
	2	2	—	5	—	1	1
	—	1	1	6	—	1	2
	2	1	—	4	—	—	1
	2	1	1	4	—	—	—
		1	—	4	—	—	—
	7	11	3	27	1	3	6
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	—	—	1	—	1	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	—	—	1	—	2	—

Pulmonary and other Cases of Tuberculosis Notified by Medical Practitioners during 1954

	Ages	WARDS													Tuberculosis Mortality		
		MALES							FEMALES								
		Duffryn	*Darranlas*	*Miskin*	*Penrhiw-ceiber*	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysybwl*	*Total*	*Duffryn*	*Darranlas*	*Miskin*	*Penrhiw-ceiber*	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysybwl*	*Total*	*Males*	*Females*
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1 to 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 10 years ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	10 to 15 years ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
	15 to 20 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	1	1	6	—	—
	20 to 25 years ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	6	—	1
	25 to 35 years ...	—	—	—	1	4	—	5	—	1	2	—	3	1	7	1	—
	35 to 45 years ...	—	—	1	2	2	1	6	—	—	1	1	3	—	5	1	—
	45 to 55 years ...	1	1	1	—	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
	55 to 65 years ...	—	—	—	2	1	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65 years and over ...	1	—	—	2	1	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
	TOTAL ...	2	1	3	7	11	3	27	1	3	6	5	8	2	25	8	1
OTHER FORMS OF TUBERCULOSIS	Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1 to 5 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 10 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	10 to 15 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	15 to 20 years ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	20 to 25 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
	25 to 35 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
	35 to 45 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45 to 55 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	55 to 65 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65 years and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	TOTAL ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	3	—	—

Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospita

									WARDS	
MALES.										
arranlas	*Miskin*	*Penrhiw-ceiber*	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysybwl*	*Total*	*Duffryn*	*Dar*			
2	1	3	3	—	10	1				
2	2	1	3	—	9	2				
1	2	5	6	—	16	1				
—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
—	—	—	—	4	4	—				
—	—	1	—	—	1	—				
—	1	1	—	—	2	1				
1	—	—	—	—	1	—				
—	—	—	1	—	1	—				
—	—	1	—	—	1	—				
—	—	—	—	—	—	—				
6	6	12	13	4	45	5				

Cases Admitted, Treated and Discharged from various Sanatoria and Hospitals during 1954

Name of Institution	WARDS													
	MALES.							FEMALES.						
	Duffryn	*Darranlas*	*Miskin*	*Penrhiw-ceiber*	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysybwl*	*Total*	*Duffryn*	*Darranlas*	*Miskin*	*Penrhiw-ceiber*	*Aber-cynon*	*Ynysybwl*	*Total*
Sully Hospital	1	2	1	3	3	—	10	1	5	2	4	1	2	15
Mardy Isolation Hospital	1	2	2	1	3	—	9	2	2	4	7	7	—	22
Pontsarn Hospital	2	1	2	5	6	—	16	1	3	3	6	6	—	19
City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	3
Tonteg Isolation Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	2
Adelina Patti Hospital	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Glan Ely Hospital	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	2	1	—	—	4
Highland Moors Hospital	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
South Wales Sanatorium, Talgarth	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benenden Sanatorium, Benenden, Kent	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Energlyn Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
TOTAL	4	6	6	12	13	4	45	5	10	12	20	16	4	67

TUBERCULOSIS

A close liaison is maintained between the Chest Physicians, the Local Health Authority and this Authority and when necessary, houses are visited by the Sanitary Inspectors and reports submitted to the Housing Manager on the living conditions existing at the homes of some of the patients notified to be suffering from Tuberculosis.

The working in harmony of the various departments has, I am sure, resulted in a number of patients, who previously were living in unfavourable conditions, being re-housed.

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death-rate per 1,000 population for 1954 was 0.29. There were no deaths from Other Forms of Tuberculosis during the year under review.

The following table shows the incidence of Tuberculosis in the district during the past ten years :—

	CASES NOTIFIED.		DEATHS.	
Year.	Pulmonary.	Other Forms	Pulmonary.	Other Forms.
1945...	63	7	22	4
1946...	60	8	22	5
1947...	48	5	20	6
1948...	49	10	20	2
1949...	34	6	18	—
1950...	44	7	18	6
1951...	54	6	14	1
1952...	59	6	16	—
1953...	73	5	15	1
1954...	52	4	9	—

I append Tables showing the Age and Ward Distribution of all cases notified and the number treated at the various sanatoria :—

Laboratory Work

CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS

As in previous years arrangements have been made with the Glamorgan County Council for the chemical and bacteriological examination of specimens from this area at the Public Health Laboratory, The Parade, Cardiff.

Medical Practitioners in the district have been informed that outfits (excluding Sputum outfits) for the collection and transmission of specimens, can be obtained from the Public Health Department, Oxford Street, Mountain Ash.

The following table shows the nature and number of specimens sent for examination, and the results :—

DISEASE SUSPECTED.	Number of Specimens.	Result. Positive.	Result. Negative.
Diphtheria :—			
Throat Swab ...	8	—	8
Nasal Swab ...	1	—	1
Food Poisoning :—			
Faecal Swabs ...	13	8	5
Dysentry & Enteric :—			
Faecal Swabs ...	65	—	65
Urine	22	—	22
Tuberculosis :—			
Sputum ...	1	—	1
Paratyphi B :—			
Faecal Swabs ...	2	2	—
Urine ...	1	—	1

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply is under the control of the Council, and, during the year there was a plentiful and continuous supply. All houses in the area have a piped supply from the Council's mains, except outlying farms and premises. In addition, the Trading Estates at Hirwaun and Ynysboeth are supplied. The sources, gathering areas and reservoirs, apart from the Penderyn Reservoir in Brecknockshire, are within the Mountain Ash Urban Area, and the capacity of the reservoirs is as follows :—

Penderyn Reservoir	132,000,000	gallons
Clydach Reservoir	11,550,000	,,
Darranlas Reservoir	3,500,000	,,
Perthcelyn Reservoir.....	30,000,000	,,
Buarth-y-Capel Reservoir	500,000	,,
Gilfach Reservoir	60,000	,,
Cefnpennar Reservoir	23,000	,,

In addition to the above reservoirs, there is an intake at Rhydygwreiddyn, Llanwonno, which is used occasionally.

The source of each supply is of upland surface type, and tends to be soft in character. One supply of water, namely, the Darranlas Reservoir, which serves the main part of the town of Mountain Ash, is treated by sand filtration and chlorination, but the other sources are chlorinated only.

The water (raw and treated) from the sources in general use were sampled once monthly and, on occasions, more frequently. Those sources not in general use were sampled when that water was used.

216 samples (108 chemical and 108 bacteriological) were taken and submitted to the Analyst at the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for examination, with the following results :—

	Number	Satis-factory	Suspi-cious	Unsatis-factory
CLYDACH :				
Raw..	12	7	2	3
Treated	16	13	—	3
DARRANLAS :				
Raw..	12	3	4	5
Treated	12	12	—	—
PERTHCELYN :				
Raw..	12	7	5	—
Treated	14	13	—	1
PENDERYN :				
Raw..	12	7	5	—
Treated	14	13	—	1
STREAM, DARRANLAS :				
Raw..	1	—	—	1
STREAM, NANTYRISFA FARM :				
Raw..	1	1	—	—
STREAM, MILL PLACE, MOUNTAIN ASH :				
Raw..	1	1	—	—
STREAM, GRAMMAR SCHOOL, MOUNTAIN ASH :				
Raw..	1	1	—	—
TOTAL	108	78	16	14

No special action, apart from the usual precautions for the safety of the water, was taken.

PLUMBO SOLVENCY.

The whole of the sources are soft, and there is, therefore, a danger of action on lead. All supplies are treated with chalk to eliminate this danger.

Gwernifor Swimming Baths.

4 samples (2 chemical and 2 bacteriological) were taken during the year and proved, on examination, to be satisfactory. Routine treatment of the water with copper sulphate was carried out to obviate the growth of algae.

Paddling Pool, Abercynon.

8 samples (4 chemical and 4 bacteriological) were taken during the year and were satisfactory.

Food Hygiene Campaign

THE ICE CREAM (Heat Treatment) etc. REGULATIONS, 1947-1952.

All premises where Ice Cream is manufactured and sold have been inspected frequently and comply with the above Regulations.

I am pleased to say that all vehicles used in the retail sale of Ice Cream have been maintained at the high standard approved by the Council.

30 samples of Ice Cream were taken and submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination, with the following results :—

Provisional Grade 1 (Satisfactory)	Provisional Grade 2 (Fair).	Provisional Grade 3 (Unsatisfactory).	Provisional Grade 4 (Very Unsatisfactory).
25	—	1	4

FOOD CAMPAIGNS

(1) Number of Food Premises in the Area :—

Grocer and Provision Dealers	58
General Dealers	114
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	34
Fishmongers	2
Refreshment Dealers and Confectioners	15
Butchers	30
Fish fryers	21
Confectionery only	4
Bakeries	9
Ice Cream (including Iced Lollies)	1
Licensed Premises	34
Mineral Water Manufacturers	1
Dairies	3
Wholesale Grocers	2

Canteens :	Colliery	5
,,	School	6
,,	Railway	1
,,	Factory	6

(2) Number of Premises registered under Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—

(1) Manufacture and Sale of Ice Cream ..	6
(2) Sale of Ice Cream	74
(3) Fried Fish and Chipped Potatoes ..	21
(4) Butchers' Smalls	15

18 Dairies are registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

(3) 239 visits and inspections of registered food premises were made during the year.

The standard of handling, preparing, displaying and serving of food has improved considerably, but the human element remains. The public could be of great assistance in furthering this improvement by being more critical of slip-shod, slovenly, or unhygienic methods of handling and serving of food.

It is my opinion that, with the co-operation of the public, food handlers and managements, and the frequent inspections of food premises by your inspectors, further improvement could be achieved.

The inspection of all canteens and kitchens throughout the area was continued, and the very high standard of cleanliness and hygiene maintained.

(4) Lectures on food hygiene were given during the year to staffs of kitchens and canteens in the area.

My thanks and appreciation are due to the management and staffs for their ready co-operation and assistance.

(5) Disposal of condemed food—burial in the Council's refuse tips. All tins are pierced before burial.

(6) No special examination of food other than that which occured in the normal routine work and is included in the Sanitary Inspectors' Report.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-50

I give herewith a statement showing the number of samples taken by the County Sanitary Inspector in the Mountain Ash Urban Area during the year ended 31st December, 1954 :—

SAMPLE.	*No. taken*
Milk	121
Golden Raising Flour	3
Blancmange Powder	3
Mustard	3
Dessert Powder	1
Table Jelly	5
Split Peas	1
Sultanas	2
Sponge Mixture	9
Sauce	2
Canned Tomatoes	2
Vitamin Capsules, etc.	3
Epsom Salts	2
Glauber Salts	2
Aspirin Tablets	3
Rose Hip Syrup	1
Black Currant Juice	2
Rice	1
Minced Chicken	2
Condensed Milk	1
Jam	5
Non Brewed Relish	3
Sausage	1
Orange Squash	4
Salad Cream	2
Coffee & Chicory	2
Fish Paste	3
Mincemeat	1
Tomato Sauce	3
Mixed Peel	1
Tea Cake Mixture	2
White Pepper	1
Custard Powder	1
Lentils	1
Shredded Beef Suet	2
Butter	6

SAMPLE.	*No. taken*
Sterilised Cream	1
Marmalade	1
Golden Syrup	1
Halibut Liver Oil Capsules	2
Boracic Acid Crystals	1
Honey	2
Ice Cream	5
Canned Gooseberries	1
Stewed Steak	1
Margarine	2
Orange curd	1
Cake & Pudding Mixture	1
Cake flour mixture	2
Tea	1
Meat Paste	1
Gravy Browning	1
Dried Coffee Extract	1
Sweet Pickle	1
Canned Fish	1
Flour	1
Canned Spinach	1
Mint Jelly	1
Calves Foot Jelly	1
Lard	1
Currants	2
Synthetic Cream	1
Lucozade	1
Iron Jelloids	1
Children's Tonic	1
Syrup Minadex	1
Pork Sausages	1
Sweets	4
Pastry Mix	1
Beef Sausage	2
Vinegar	1

One sample of Ice Cream was found, on analysis, to be deficient in fat to the extent of not less than 8 per cent. Proceedings were taken against the vendor resulting in a fine of £2 plus £1 1*s*. 0*d*. advocate's fee and 15*s*. analyst's fee.

I am indebted to Dr. W. E. Thomas, County Medical Officer of Health, for supplying me with the above information.

HOUSING

Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 & 1932.

No action has been taken by the Council under the above Regulations.

General Health and Welfare Services of the District

1.—Services provided by the Glamorgan County Council :—

(*a*) Maternity and Child Welfare, Midwifery, Home Nursing, Home Help, School Medical and Health Visiting.

These services are administered by the
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER.
Headquarters : Divisional Health Offices,
New Clinic Buildings, Rock Grounds,
ABERDARE.

Tel. No. : Aberdare 441.

(*b*) MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE :—

The duly authorised officer for this area is,—
Mr. STANLEY WILLIAMS,
Amroth, Clive Terrace, YNYSYBWL, Glam.

Tel. No. : Ynysybwl 26.

(*c*) AMBULANCE SERVICE :—

The Ambulance Station for this area is situated at HAWTHORN, PONTYPRIDD.

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2522.

(*d*) WELFARE SERVICE :—

Officers of the Welfare Department are available to offer advice and assistance to those in need of hostel accommodation, the blind and the handicapped.
The local office for this area is at
Area Office, Llewellyn Street, Trecynon.
ABERDARE.

Tel. No. : Aberdare 318.

(*e*) Children's Department :—

The office of the Children's Department of the County Council is at
33 to 36 Adam Street, Cardiff.

Tel. No. : Cardiff 31696 to 31698.

There is, however, working in this district a Children's Visitor:-

Mrs. Davies, Nafton House, Caple Street,
Bargoed, Glam.

(*f*) Registration of Births, Deaths & Marriages :
This area comes under the Pontypridd District and the Superintendent's office is at
Courthouse Street, Pontypridd, Glam.

Tel. No. : Pontypridd 3122.

The local offices are situated at
53 Commercial Street, Mountain Ash.

Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2192.

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,—
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. ; 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Glancynon Post Office, Abercynon.
Tuesday—9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.

Workmen's Institute, Ynysybwl.
Tuesday—11.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

(*g*) Probation Officer :—
The address of the Principal Probation Officer is at St. Catherine's Chamber, Mill Street,
Pontypridd. Tel. No. : Pontypridd 2157.

For this area the address is,—

Probation Officer Office, Cardiff Street,
Aberdare. Tel. No. : Aberdare 332.

2.—Hospital Services provided by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board.

Hospital facilities of this area are administered by the Merthyr and Aberdare Hospital Management Committee. The office of this Committee is at St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, Glam.

Tel. No. : Merthyr 900

The following is a list of the hospitals and clinics used by the residents of the area :—

Mountain Ash & Penrhiwceiber General Hospital Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2213

Lady Aberdare Maternity Hospital, Granville Tce., Mountain Ash. Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2194.

Fedw Hir Convalescent Hospital, Llwydcoed, Aberdare. Tel. No. Aberdare 612.

Mardy Isolation Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil
(*For Infectious Diseases*).
Tel. No. : Merthyr 230.

Chest Clinic, Melbourne House, Penrhiwceiber Rd., Penrhiwceiber.

(This Clinic is open on Tuesday and Friday mornings 10 a.m. to 12 noon). Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2119.

3.—Services Provided by Government Departments

(*a*) Ministry of National Insurance :—

Central Office (Wales) is at Cathays Park, Cardiff.
Tel. No. : Cardiff 26411.

Local Office is at Duffryn Road, Mountain Ash.
Tel. No. : Mountain Ash 2215.

(*b*) Pneumoconiosis Medical Panel :—

This office is situated at the East Entrance, Prudential Buildings, Cathays Park, Cardiff.

Tel. No. : Cardiff 26161

(*c*) National Assistance Board :—

The Area Office for this District is at Glanynys, Cwmbach Road, Aberdare.

Telephone No. : Aberdare 343.

4.—General Practitioner Services :—

This service is provided by the Glamorgan Executive Council of 47 Park Place, Cardiff.

Tel. No. : Cardiff 26216 (National Health Council).

5.—National Assitance Act, 1948—Burial of the Dead

Under the provisions of the Act, during the year the cost of burying seven persons was accepted by this authority.

J. LL. WILLIAMS,
Medical Officer of Health.

Summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspectors

Houses and premises inspected and re-visited	3,472
Number of Notices served under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936 :—	
Informal	602
Statutory	331
General Repairs—	
Chimneys and fireplaces	195
Roofs	311
Eavesgutters and downpipes	311
External walls	89
Windows and doors	173
Internal walls, partitions and ceilings	153
Floors	81
Internal staircases	27
Cupboards and skirtings	53
Sculleries and pantries	76
Yard pavements and steps	74
Dry areas provided	3
Wash houses and coal houses	5
Boundary and forecourt walls	40
Dirty premises	7
Accumulations removed	12
Repairs to water service	43
Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936—	
Number of Notices served	57
Drainage—	
Cleansed, repaired and relaid	115
Drains tested	147
Wash-up sinks provided and repaired	17
Section 45, Public Health Act, 1936—	
Number of Notices served	168
Sanitary Conveniences—	
General Repairs	220
Water flushing apparatus repaired and renewed	98
New accommodations provided	—
Cesspools cleansed	8

Legal Proceedings—

During the year 6 summonses under Section 93, 2 under Section 45 and 2 under Section 39 of the Public Health Act, 1936, were taken against owners of premises for non-abatement of nuisances.

Court Orders were issued for the Section 93 summonses and failure to comply with 2 of the Court Orders resulted in fines of £2 in each case.

Fines of £2 and 5s. were imposed for the summons under Section 45, and a fine of £2 for one of the summones under Section 39.

Costs were recovered by the Council in each case.

Factory Act, 1947—

Number of bakehouses on register	9
Number of factories on register	100
Number of visits	205
Number of Notices	2
Number of outworkers	10

Infectious Diseases—

Number of cases visited	58

Disinfection—

Number of houses fumigated after infectious disease ..	93
Number of dirty or verminous houses sprayed or fumigated..	41

Licensed Premises—

During the year the improvements in the hygienic and sanitary conditions of licensed premises was maintained.

The Licencees and the Brewery Companies concerned have fully co-operated with your Inspectors.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK & DAIRIES) ACT, 1944

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Powers of supervision of the retail distribution and sampling of milk for bacteriological examination are vested in the Local Authority :—

Number of Distributors on Register ...	18
Number of Dairies in Area	17
Number of Visits	78

66 samples of milk were taken during the year and sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Cardiff, for bacteriological examination and chemical tests.

5 samples were found to be unsatisfactory. In these instances, copies of the Analyst's reports were sent to the Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

18 samples were submitted for Tubercle Bacilli and found to be satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) ACT, 1949.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

One dealers' Licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested " was issued to a distributor of milk in this area.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) REGULATIONS, 1949

14 dealers' Licences authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised " and 14 licences for the Special Designation " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) " were issued to distributors of milk in this area.

One dealers' Licence was issued for the use of the Special Designation " Sterilised."

One Supplementary licence authorising the use of the Special Designation " Pasteurised " and One Supplementary licence for " Tuberculin Tested Milk (Pasteurised) " were issued to a distributor of milk residing outside the Urban Area.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

7 licences to act as slaughtermen were issued during the year.

Notices of intended slaughtering of 52 cottagers' pigs were received by the Public Health Department, and the carcases were inspected by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	Not known
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	52
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases in which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	—		—	—	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	—	—	—	—	7.7

A total of 1 ton, 4 cwts. and 39½ lbs. of foodstuffs was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption, voluntarily surrendered and destroyed :—

	Weight in lbs.
Pork	87
Imported Beef	220½
Bacon	102¼
Sausages	232½
Faggots	10
Black Pudding	5
Cheese	114½
Fish	98
Fish Cakes	28
Whole Egg	14
Tinned Meat	510
Tinned Ham	258¾
Tinned Goods	980
Cake	22
Chocolate	25
Cake Mixture	40

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Premises where pet animals are sold must be licenced annually by the local authority.

Two such licences were issued during the year and both premises were frequently inspected in accordance with the provisions of the above mentioned Act.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

One factory in the area has been registered as an Upholstery premises.

Frequent visits have been made to see that the provisions of the above Act are being complied with.

RODENT CONTROL.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

During the year work on the destruction of rats was continued. Private dwellings were treated free of costs, to the occupiers, and 50 per cent. of the costs incurred were recovered from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No grant is received in respect of business premises, and all expenditure has to be recovered from the owners or occupiers of these premises.

Two full time Rodent Operatives are employed by the Council, and details of the work carried out by them, under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors, are as follows :—

Number of Preliminary Notices served :—

(1) for treatment	6
(2) for structural work	4

Number of Premises visited 2,627

	Rats.	Mice.
Number of dwelling houses treated	267 ..	187
Number of business premises treated ..	4 ..	3
Number of canteens treated	2 ..	1
Number of refuse tips treated	7	
Number of embankments treated	16	
Number of watercourses treated	18	
Number of piggeries treated	5	
Number of sewer beds treated	4	
Number of back lanes treated	4	
Number of culverts treated	7	
Number of sections of river embankment treated	32	
Number of schools treated	1	2
Number of canal banks	2	

Block Treatments :

9 block treatments were carried out during the year, as follows :—

(*a*) 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 Ynysddwr Cottages, back gardens, watercourse, colliery feeder, canal and canal banks, with an estimated kill of 130 rats on the first treatment and 70 rats on the second treatment.

(*b*) 12, 14 and 16 London Street, 7 and 8 Navigation Street, Mountain Ash, and nearby sewer manholes. The estimated kill was 40 rats.

(*c*) 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 Penygraig Terrace, Ynysybwl, embankment, watercourse and river embankments. The estimated kill was 102 rats.

(*d*) 1, 2 and 3 Ffrwd Terrace, Ynysybwl, river embankments, the Ynysybwl Inn and 2 watercourses, giving an estimated kill of 60 rats.

(*e*) Ynysboeth Trading Estate, Abercynon, embankments, culvert and watercourse, with an estimated kill of 703 rats.

(*f*) 66, 68, 70 and 72 Glanlay Street, Penrhiwceiber, embankments and sewer manholes. The estimated kill was 57 rats.

(*g*) Both embankments of the River Cynon from the boundary with Aberdare to Abercynon, and both embankments of the River Taff from Abercynon to the boundary with Pontypridd. The estimated kill of rats was 880.

(*h*) Both embankments of the River Clydach to the boundary with Pontypridd, giving an estimated kill of 342 rats.

(*i*) 43 The Avenue, Cefnpennar, embankments and sewer manholes. As the poison used was Warfarin, there was no estimated kill.

The estimated kill of rats throughout the area (excluding the sewers,, for the year, was as follows :—

Mountain Ash	2642
Penrhiwceiber	945
Abercynon	2150
Ynysybwl	1750
	7487

All estimated kills are worked out in accordance with the fomula of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Sewer Treatment.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers throughout the area. comprising 673 manholes, were carried out, one from 14th June to 10th, July, 1954, and the other from 22nd November to 18th December, 1954.

306 manholes showed a pre-bait take and 18 manholes showed a complete pre-bait take on one or both of the days during the first treatment, whereas the figure for the second treatment were 346 and 6 respectively. As there is no check on the poison take in sewers, it is impossible to work out an estimated kill.

The treatments were carried out by the Rodent Operatives, assisted by two men from the Surveyor's Department.

All sewer beds and refuse tips were treated at the same time, and all treatments were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

The bait used in the first treatment was Sausage Rusk, and the poison Zinc Phosphide and, for the second treatment, the bait was Bread Mash and the poison Arsenious Oxide.

The nature and development of the Mountain Ash Urban Area and the close proximity of the dwelling houses, etc., to the river makes rodent infestation and reinfestation inevitable, and will necessitate constant survey, treatment and supervision.

W. J. WATTERS,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

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